

Reply to Office Action dated December 26, 2007

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9, 16, 19-20 and 22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 16 are amended and claims 4, 10-13 and 15 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Various amendments are made for clarity and are unrelated to issues of patentability.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments obviate the grounds for rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 4-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0168976 to Krishnan in view of U.S. Patent 5,734,980 to Hooper et al. (hereafter Hooper) and U.S. Patent Publication 2005/0153696 to Chao et al. (hereafter Chao). The Office Action also rejects claims 10-13 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over to Krishnan in view of Hooper and Chao. Still further, the Office Action rejects claims 16, 19-20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over to Krishnan in view of Hooper and Chao. The rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the pending claims.

Independent claim 1 recites receiving system information from a Radio Resource Control of a UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access Network, wherein the received system information comprises frequency information of service vendors, and obtaining usage frequencies of service vendors from the received system information. Independent claim 1 also recites storing the obtained usage frequencies of service vendors in memory of user equipment, and sequentially performing a cell search by scanning the stored usage frequencies and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor. Independent claim 1

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further recites that the cell search is preferentially performed about the stored usage frequencies of the service vendors, and then performed about all frequency band allocated to each service vendor when a requested frequency is not found when searching the stored frequencies of the service vendors.

The applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 1. More specifically, the applied references do not teach or suggest sequentially performing a cell search by scanning the stored usage frequencies and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor, wherein the cell search is preferentially performed about the stored usage frequencies of the service vendors, and then performed about all frequency band allocated to each service vendor when a requested frequency is not found when searching the stored frequencies of the service vendors.

The applied references do not relate to the specific order of a cell search and/or the relationship between usage frequencies of service vendors and cell frequency band allocated to the service vendor, as discussed in the present specification.

Krishnan's paragraph [0028] does not teach or suggest sequentially performing a cell search by scanning the stored usage frequencies and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor. Krishnan does not suggest the sequential performing.

Additionally, Hooper's col. 7, lines 22-30 and 60-64 does not teach or suggest the sequentially performing of the cell search, wherein the cell search is preferentially performed about the stored usage frequencies of the service vendors, and then performed about all frequency band allocated to each service vendor when a requested frequency is not found when searching the stored frequencies of the service vendors.

Accordingly, Krishnan and Hooper do not teach or suggest all the features of independent claim 1. Chao does not teach or suggest the features of independent claim 1 missing from Krishnan and Hooper. Thus, independent claim 1 defines patentable subject matter.

Independent claim 16 recites a receiving device to receive system information and a memory to store usage frequencies of service vendors obtained from the received system information and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor. Independent claim 16 also recites a processing device to sequentially perform a cell search by scanning the stored usage frequencies and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor. Independent claim 16 further recites that the processing device preferentially performs the cell search about the stored usage frequencies of the service vendors, and then performs about all frequency band allocated to each service vendor when a requested frequency is not found when searching the stored frequencies of the service vendors.

For at least similar reasons as set forth above, the applied references do not teach or suggest at least these features of independent claim 16. More specifically, the applied references do not teach or suggest a processing device to sequentially perform a cell search by scanning the stored usage frequencies and a frequency band allocated to each service vendor. Additionally, the applied references also do not teach or suggest the processing device to sequentially perform the cell search in combination with the processing device preferentially performs the cell search about the stored usage frequencies of the service vendors, and then performs about all frequency band allocated to each service vendor when a requested frequency is not found when searching the


stored frequencies of the service vendors. Thus, independent claim 16 defines patentable subject matter.

For at least the reasons set forth above, each of independent claims 1 and 16 defines patentable subject matter. Each of the dependent claims depends from one of the independent claims and therefore defines patentable subject matter at least for this reason. In addition, the dependent claims recite features that further and independently distinguish over the applied references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9, 16, 19-20 and 22 are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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